

DEPUTY CLERK

Atl. Corp. v. Twombly, 550 U.S. 544, 570, 127 S.Ct. 1955, 167 L.Ed.2d 929 (2007); see also Atherton v. D.C. Office of Mayor, 567 F.3d 672, 681-82 (D.C. Cir. 2009) (“[While pro se complaints] must be held to less stringent standards than formal pleadings[,] . . . even a pro se complainant must plead factual matter that permits the court to infer more than the mere possibility of misconduct.”) (internal quotation marks and citations omitted).

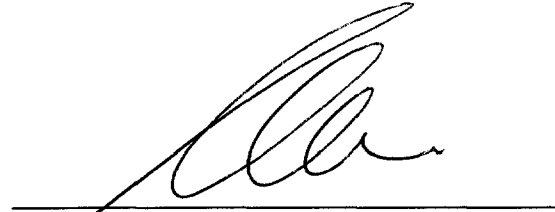
II.

To state a cause of action under § 1983, a plaintiff must allege facts indicating that plaintiff has been deprived of rights guaranteed by the Constitution or laws of the United States and that this deprivation resulted from conduct committed by a person acting under color of state law. West v. Atkins, 487 U.S. 42 (1988). “Local governing bodies . . . can be sued directly under § 1983 for monetary, declaratory, or injunctive relief where . . . the action that is alleged to be unconstitutional implements or executes a policy statement, ordinance, regulation, or decision officially adopted and promulgated by that body’s officers.” Monell v. New York City Dep’t of Soc. Servs., 436 U.S. 658, 690 (1978). To prove that a governmental entity, such as a local jail, is liable for constitutional violations committed by its employees, plaintiff must show that the entity’s policy was “the moving force of the constitutional violation.” Polk County v. Dodson, 454 U.S. 312, 326 (1981). Here, Mustard fails to link any policy of the NRVJR, a local jail, to any of that defendant’s alleged acts. Accordingly, the court will dismiss the claims against NRVJR under § 1915A for failure to state a claim upon which relief may be granted.

III.

For the reasons stated, the court dismisses Mustard's complaint pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1915 (e)(2)(B)(ii) without prejudice.¹

ENTER: March 29, 2012.


UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

¹ Section 1915(e) applies to all *in forma pauperis* filings “in addition to complaints filed by prisoners[.]” Michau v. Charleston County, 434 F.3d 725, 728 (4th Cir. 2006). Accordingly, it is the proper vehicle to dismiss Mustard's complaint.